UNITED NATIONS **S**

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/2000/45
21 January 2000
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

IDENTICAL LETTERS DATED 19 JANUARY 2000 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL AND TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you that violations of Iraq's airspace by United States and British aircraft based in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Turkey continued between 9 and 16 January 2000 and that the aircraft in question engaged in acts of aggression, reconnaissance activities and acts of provocation, as set forth in the annex hereto.

You are requested to intervene with the United States, the United Kingdom and the countries that provide the facilities for these acts of aggression, namely Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Turkey, with a view to bringing a halt to actions that, as flagrant violations of the Charter of the United Nations and of international law, pose a threat to the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Iraq.

These actions are continuing to bring death and injury to hundreds of civilians and to cause serious damage to private and public property. The logistic support that Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Turkey provide to the United States and British forces makes them key partners in the aggression being committed against Iraq, so that they share international responsibility for the consequences of these actions. The Government of the Republic of Iraq affirms its right to seek lawful compensation for the damage being inflicted on its people by these same actions.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Saeed H. HASAN
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

Violations by United States and British aircraft and damage caused, 9-16 January 2000

1. In the northern region 74 sorties were flown at speeds of 720 to 780 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 6,000 to 12,000 metres, as follows:

(a) At 1045 hours on 11 January 2000 United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Turkish territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 14 missions from Turkish territory, were supported by an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Turkish airspace and overflew the Mosul, Irbil, Sinjar, Zakho, Aqrah, Tall Afar, Baibo and Amadiyah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1325 hours, drove them off.

(b) At 1100 hours on 12 January 2000 United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Turkish territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 14 missions from Turkish territory, were supported by an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Turkish airspace and overflew the Mosul, Irbil, Dohuk, Tall Afar, Zakho, Amadiyah, Baibo, Aqrah, Ayn Zalah and Sinjar areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1435 hours, drove them off.

(c) At 1215 hours on 13 January 2000 United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Turkish territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 14 missions from Turkish territory, were supported by an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Turkish airspace and overflew the Mosul, Dohuk, Tall Afar, Irbil, Ayn Zalah, Amadiyah and Zakho areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1510 hours, drove them off.

(d) At 1130 hours on 14 January 2000 United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Turkish territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 18 missions from Turkish territory, were supported by an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Turkish airspace and overflew the Amadiyah, Zakho, Aqrah, Mosul, Tall Afar, Sinjar and Dohuk areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1355 hours, drove them off.

(e) At 1120 hours on 16 January 2000 United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Turkish territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 14 missions from Turkish territory, were supported by an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Turkish airspace and overflew the Amadiyah, Zakho, Aqrah, Mosul and Tall Afar areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1350 hours, drove them off.

2. In the southern region 143 sorties were flown at speeds of 720 to 780 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 9,000 to 13,000 metres, as follows:

(a) At 1150 hours on 9 January 2000 United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 30 missions, eight of them from Saudi territory with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and 22 from Kuwaiti territory with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Salman, Basrah, Busayyah, Artawi, Jalibah, Qurnah, Amarah, Nasiriyah, Rifa'i, Ali al-Gharbi, Shatrah, Kut, Qal'at Sukkar, Shinafiyah and Diwaniyah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1340 hours, drove them off.

(b) At 1015 hours on 10 January 2000 United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 56 missions, 26 of them from Saudi territory with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and 30 from Kuwaiti territory with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Lasaf, Nasiriyah, Basrah, Najaf, Hayy, Amarah, Razzazah South, Jalibah, Artawi and Nu'maniyah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1302 hours, drove them off.

(c) At 1030 hours on 11 January 2000 United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, F-18, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 28 missions, 12 of them from Saudi territory with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and 16 from Kuwaiti territory with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Artawi, Ushbayjah, Lasaf, Basrah, Qurnah, Samawah, Amarah, Qal'at Salih, Nasiriyah, Diwaniyah and Taqtaqanah West areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1140 hours, drove them off.

(d) At 0725 hours on 13 January 2000 United States and British F-15 aircraft coming from Saudi territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out seven missions from Saudi territory, were supported by an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and overflew the Lasaf, Taqtaqanah and Ushbayjah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 0815 hours, drove them off.

(e) At 0735 hours on 14 January 2000 United States and British F-15 aircraft coming from Saudi territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out eight missions from Saudi territory, were supported by an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and overflew the Lasaf and Ushbayjah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 0845 hours, drove them off.

(f) At 0700 hours on 16 January 2000 United States and British F-15 aircraft coming from Saudi territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 14 missions from Saudi territory, were supported by an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and overflew the Lasaf, Ushbayjah, Najaf and Salman areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 0845 hours, drove them off.